

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



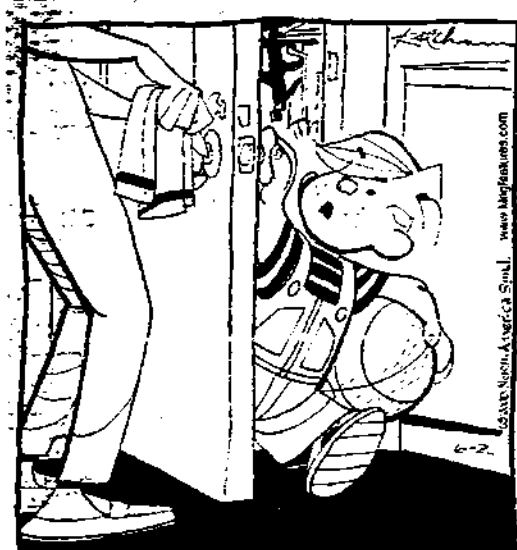
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



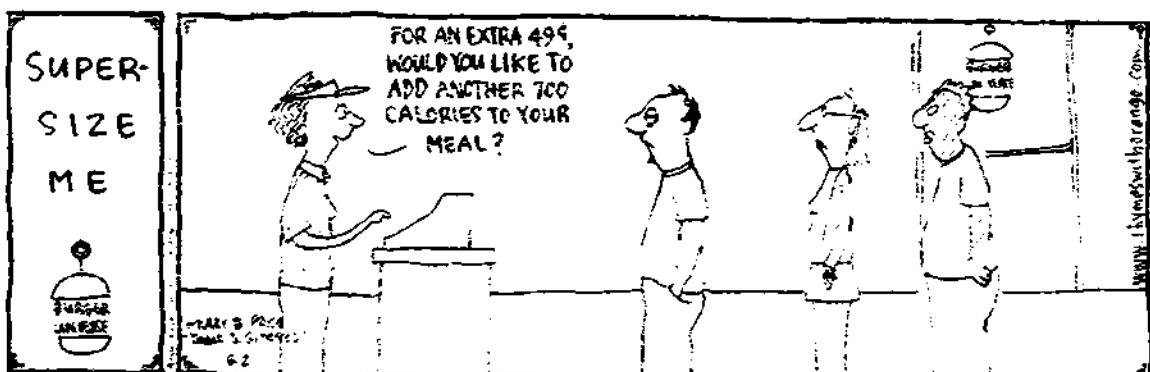
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



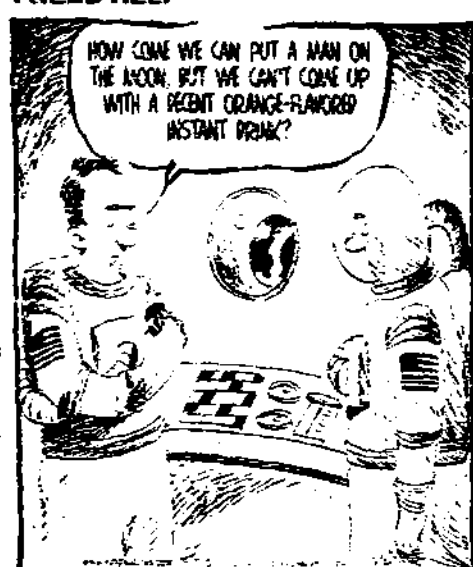
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor-composer Max Showalter is 83. Actress Sally Kellerman is 63. Actor Stacy Keach is 59. Rock musician Charlie Watts is 59. Singer William Guest (Gladys Knight & The Pips) is 59. Actor Charles Halliday is 57. Composer Marvin Hamlisch is 56. Movie director Lasse Hallstrom ("The Cider House Rules") is 54. Actor Jerry Mathers is 52. Actress Joanna Gleason is 50. Comedian Dana Carvey is 45.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

SCRABBLE is a word game for two players. Each player has a rack of seven letters. The goal is to use the letters to form words. The player with the highest score wins.

PAR SCORE 70-80
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each rack. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. Stars used as any letter have no point value. A Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Warriner/Wordplay) and CSW Official Scrabble Words (Cheniere). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 6/2/00

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Saturday, June 3

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The fast pace of the day doesn't bother you.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) This is a good time to slow down and make a plan before you go any further.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) The time is right for starting new projects.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Take some time to listen to what your inner voice is trying to tell you.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You have a great time discussing your future plans with friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Spend some time concentrating on work issues.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A lot of good energy surrounds you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) An unusual detail could throw off the whole deal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You spend a lot of time thinking about your personal philosophies.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You tend to be attracted to grounded people.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) A sizzling affair could develop between you and a co-worker or business colleague.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) There is too much to do and not enough hours in the day to do it all.

WORD SLEUTH

SWITCH 1ST AND LAST LETTER TO MAKE ANOTHER WORD

A Z W T Q N K H D A X U R P M
J G D A R X V S Q N K I F D A
S X V T E Q O M J H F C A Y W
U E R P C N L D J R H F D B Z
X V H T A R D Q E E O M K I H
F D B C N E Z G Y P W V T R Q
S O N W T L G K I E S H S L F
D M E S E A C T A L F I E Z M
X S U W D N L V N U U V L E S
R R Q L O N I M R U E T A H W
K J I H P F E S P R A T M D B

Thursday's unlisted clue: HENIE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Friday's unlisted clue hint: YOUR UNCLE'S WIFE

Dagger	Lisped	Recanted	Snew
Furs	Males	Revel	Tarp
Latches	Meat	Rusted	What
Lepor	Plums	Sewn	

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

It was no secret that South held a monster hand — he bid the game single-handedly. However, West had no way of knowing where South's tricks might be unless South told him. And since South kept no secrets, West had an easy time in beating the game. South took his diamond queen and, with nothing of value in dummy, led his club king. If clubs were 3-3, he would score an easy over-trick. West took his club ace to knock out South's diamond ace, and South cashed two more high clubs. Unfortunately for him, the clubs were 4-2, and South could win only eight top tricks. South should not have been in a hurry with his club suit. If clubs were 3-3, they would still be 3-3 later rather than sooner. And instead of playing clubs immediately, South should have first cashed his three high spades. Consider West's plight after South cashes three spades. What is West to discard? Surely West would discard at least one club, and that's all that South would need. After West's fatal discard, South would lead clubs, and his well-kept secret would reward him with an over-trick. Might it hurt to cash three spades? No. The bidding makes it impossible for South to lose four spades and a club, making the spade play a "can't lose" bet.

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: West

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Pass	Pass	3 NT
1 ♣	Pass	Pass	3 NT
All pass			

Opening lead: Diamond jack

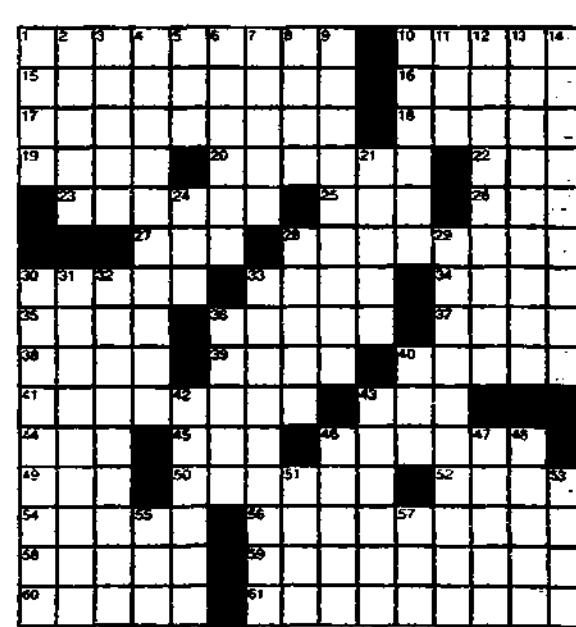
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0421

- ACROSS**
- Words of encouragement
 - When it's dark, in Darmstadt
 - "Psycho" co-star, 1998
 - Daytime TV staple
 - Church properties
 - Wheel and deal
 - Vincent Lopez's theme song
 - Loose-tipped
 - It comes straight from the horse's mouth
 - Anthony who sang "What Kind of Fool Am I"
 - "All the Things You"
 - Axis/Allies war zone: Abbr.
 - It's inspired
 - Interstate sight
 - Flower part
 - An hors d'oeuvre
 - Division politique
 - Seducer of 53-Down
 - Fork's place, maybe
 - Sign away
 - N.Y.C. home of "The Starry Night"
 - Golden finish?
 - Firehouse feature
 - Drydock supports
 - Stretch of turbulent water
 - "Star Wars" name
 - Pen
 - Sniff out
 - Noted touring dance grp.
 - Like many grenades
 - Dart
 - Gift recipient's question
 - Small blood vessel
 - Swift reply?
 - 1993 Robin Hood player
 - A lot
 - They can be deep
- DOWN**
- Grandfather's relation?
 - Result of walking the lead-off batter
 - Verbal white flag
 - Robber's need, maybe
 - "Well, looker here!"
 - Giant in baby food
 - Without passion
 - Three-toed bird
 - Bandleader with the #1 hit "Unchained Melody"
 - "Hold yer horses!"
 - Loan abbreviation
 - Antarctic seal
 - Was on Easy Street

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

EGG CAFFE SAGS
ALI UNLIT ANNUL
TORPEUBE NITRO
SPLASHES SETSUP
USES DIC
PILLAR BARRFILM
EWE TSARS EDDIE
RITY LEE RAVE
ISBUT EASYVA WES
METRICK ENCORE
ARK ESTE
SHITICK HADIDEAS
POINT LARE EXAS
ABETS VITAE ART
DODO IGORS MPS



14 David Letterman's shick
21 Tommy patch
24 Year Agrippa was murdered
28 Downspout site
29 Cook's reference
30 Auto parts
31 The University of Washington won the first one in 1982
32 Part of a California grove

33 Go along for the ride
36 Totaled
40 Take a load off
42 Specks of land
43 Fly-by-night?
46 Raison

47 Goof (around) ride
48 Like some floors
51 Fare for regular folks?
53 Durbeyfield lads
55 Plaintive cry
57 Yankee's toe

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.